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No 13

St Louis July 22d. 1807.

Sir

I have lately received informations, which were I disposed to place implicit reliance on them, I should consider of the most alarming nature. The Interpreters of the upper country particularly Aberneon of the Sac Village, write me, that there been formed a powerful confederation of all the Indians between the Mississippi and the Missouri for commencing a war on the frontiers of the United States. He further informs me that several Emissaries from the province of Upper Canada have dispersed themselves throughout the country, and are greatly instrumental in promoting these hostile dispositions. —— The Iowa's only we are told withhold themselves from this threatening combination. All the other nations

are united for the purpose of attack, as soon as their Corn is sufficiently ripe, to supply them with provisions — It is said in the month of September. —

Now altho' I do not, by any means credit these rumours, to their full extent I have thought it expedient to send confidential persons into the country in order to ascertain their truth or falsehood — and in the mean time shall prepare the militia to repel the attack, should it (contrary to my expectation) be made. —

Major Hempstead, the Aid of the Comdr. in chief of the Territorial militia, waits on you for the purpose of requesting transport to this place, of the arms brought by Captain Bissell, and addressed to the Governor. Their boxes would have been taken out, as Capt. B. reports Fort Harris, had I not been desirous of ascertaining those apprehensions, already entertained by the people

on account of the small pox. — If you have room and a boat which can be spared, you would very much oblige us by ordering this transport. — I know that in making this request I trespass too far on your courtesy, and if inconvenient must reply other conveyance.

I do not know in what state these Army at present are. If they have been exposed to wet during their passage they probably are not now in preparation for us. — You have few accommodations I presume, or you would be exceedingly troubled with my solicitations; but as your Farm pow is not very abundantly supplied with cattle = ess, I must endeavour to have this business done at Saint Louis. —

I have the honor to be,

Dear Colonel very respectfully

Your most obed servant

Fitzgerald Bates

Colonel Thomas Hunt

Camp

Mejor Hempstead } 1/2 1/2 Fontaine